

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 BIB-01 CU-02
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P R 110848Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2657
INFO AMCONGEN MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2614

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, RO
SUBJ: ROMANIAN DISSIDENTS ARRESTED
REF: BUCHAREST 2541

1. SUMMARY. REFTEL REPORTED A GENERAL TIGHTENING IN GOR
CONTROLS OVER DISSIDENTS AND INCREASED HARASSMENT OF THEM
BEGINNING AFTER CEAUSESCU'S SPEECH OF MARCH 28. WE ARE
BEGINNING TO GET SOME SPECIFIC DETAILS. END SUMMARY.

2. STEFANESCU (REFTEL AND PREVIOUS) WAS ABLE TO COMMUNI-
CATE WITH US THROUGH INDIRECT CHANNEL. HE WAS ARRESTED
EARLY EVENING APRIL 2 AND IMMEDIATELY (I.E. SATURDAY
NIGHT) BROUGHT BEFORE A JUDICIAL TRIBUNAL FOR
VIOLATION OF LAW 25/1976 WHICH PROVIDES THAT ALL
PERSONS ABLE TO DO SO MUST BE USEFULLY EMPLOYED.
HE WAS SENTENCED TO WORK FOR ONE YEAR IN BUCHAREST
"PROGRESUL" PRE-FABRICATED CONCRETE FACTORY AND
THREATENED WITH ADDITIONAL PROSECUTION IF HE FAILED
TO COMPLY. WE HAVE COPY OF TRIBUNAL'S DECISION.
AFTER SIGNING CONTRACT AT FACTORY ON APRIL 3, HE
WAS RELEASED. ACCORDING TO STEFANESCU, EIGHT OTHER
PERSONS RECEIVED IDENTICAL SENTENCES AT SAME TIME.
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HE LISTED THEM AS GRIGORE ANDREI, MIHAI DUMITRIU,
CONSTANTIN HORVATH, STELIAN GAINA, CRISTIAN BOBOIA,
DANIEL GARABET, DAN ENESCU, AND VICTOR MAVRODINEANU.
AT LEAST SOME ARE THOUGHT TO BE SIGNERS OF
GOMA DOCUMENT.

3. STEFANESCU SAID THAT HE WAS QUESTIONED CLOSELY

ON WHO HAD SIGNED GOMA DOCUMENT AND WHO ARE HIS FOREIGN CONTACTS. HE WAS URGED TO RETRACT HIS OWN SIGNATURE, REFUSED, BUT NOTED THAT UNDER INTENSE PRESSURE SOME PERSONS ARE. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF HIS TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OR THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS DEPARTURE, BUT HE IS STILL HOPEFUL "SOMETHING WILL BE WORKED OUT." HIS FIANCE WAS QUESTIONED FOR SEVERAL HOURS APRIL 5, PARTICULARLY ON HER CONTACTS WITH TWO EMBASSIES HERE (NEITHER IS US EMBASSY), THEN RELEASED.

4. FRG EMBOFF TOLD US ART CRITIC AND GOMA SUPPORTER ION NEGOITESCU WAS ARRESTED APRIL 2 ON CHARGES OF HOMOSEXUALITY (REPORTEDLY, HE IS), HELD FOR 48 HOURS OF WHICH 27 WERE SPENT BEING QUESTIONED ABOUT HIS HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVITIES BUT NOT RPT NOT ABOUT GOMA OR THE DISSIDENTS, THEN RELEASED. HIS CASE WILL GO TO TRIAL IN OPEN COURT. HE THEN REPORTEDLY ASKED IF HE COULD LEAVE ROMANIA (PREVIOUSLY HE HAD NO INTENTION OF DEPARTING) AND WAS TOLD HE COULD.

5. A RANK-AND-FILE DISSIDENT BAPTIST TOLD US APRIL 8 THAT FOUR LEADERS OF THIS GROUP - IOSIF TON, AUREL POPESCU, PAVEL NICULESCU, AND CIOATA SILVIU - HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY DETAINED FOR SHORT PERIODS BEGINNING APRIL 3 AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE UNDER "HOUSE ARREST." ACCORDING TO SOURCE, THEY HAVE OCCASIONALLY BEEN "BEATEN." (COMMENT. THIS IS FIRST REPORT OF PHYSICAL ABUSE WE HAVE RECEIVED, AND WE ARE SKEPTICAL WITHOUT CONFIDENTIAL

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FURTHER CONFIRMATION.) THESE FOUR ARE THE PRINCIPAL AUTHORS OF A DECLARATION DEPLORING THE DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY THEIR GROUP IN ROMANIA (BUCHAREST A-24) WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BROADCAST ON RFE; ACCORDING TO SOURCE, GOR OFFICIALS URGED THEM ALL TO REPUDIATE THIS DOCUMENT. BRITISH EMBOFF WHO HAD TALKED RECENTLY WITH TON, ACKNOWLEDGED LEADER OF DISSIDENT BAPTISTS, CONFIRMED TON IS UNDER "HOUSE ARREST" BUT COULD NOT CONFIRM OTHER PARTS OF THIS STORY.

6. WE HAVE NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON REPORTED ARREST OF GOMA (BUCHAREST 2607) OR RUMORED ARREST VIANU (STATE 078543)

BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 11-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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